



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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FISHERY OUTLOOK REPORT FOR JANUARY-MARCH ISSUED BY FWS

A plentiful supply of fishery products during Lent is forecast by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in its quarterly outlook report for the fishing industry, which was given to Secretary of Interior Oscar L. Chapman today.

The report points out that although the first quarter of the year is a period of generally low production in the fisheries of the country, the deficit in current production is made up by drawing on the present high stocks of canned, frozen and cured fishery products. As spring comes on, production increases and there is less reliance on stored products.

Among the significant features of the current fishery situation are the extremely heavy holdings of frozen whiting, and the relatively lower holdings (as compared to last year) of frozen fillets of haddock, cod, pollock, mackerel, and flounder and sole. Halibut holdings also are markedly below those of a year ago, but are still large enough to place halibut among the five major items in cold storage, which made up half the total holdings. These products were whiting, shrimp, rosefish (ocean perch) fillets, halibut, and salmon.

The forecast was prepared by economist Ralph Russell, of the FWS Branch of Commercial Fisheries. This quarterly report is the fourth in a series, and is based on data collected from a wide variety of sources — representing facts and opinions from authorities in the fishery industry and government agencies.

The outlook reports specific business conditions and market situations in the fishery industry. Among the factors discussed are the general business situation, conditions in the food industry, food prices, and international trade in fishery products. A large part of the publication is given to a discussion of the marketing situation of individual species of fish and shellfish, arranged according to major areas of production.

Copies of the Quarterly Outlook for Marketing Fishery Products, January-March 1950, Fishery Leaflet 336c, can be obtained free from the Division of Information, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington 25, D. C.

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